Glossary of Important Terms

Current (Interim exception) (Legacy) Borrowers:

- Returning students who have borrowed a previous federal loan in their JD program at Delaware Law School and
- have not been enrolled for more than three academic years in the JD program.

Loan Limits for Students who are eligible for the Interim Exception:

- Professional Students and Graduate Students – 20,500 in Unsubsidized Loan up to an aggregate Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan Limit of 138,500.00
- Professional and Graduate Students: May borrow Graduate PLUS Loan up to the Cost of Attendence minus any other financial aid.
- Undergraduate Students – same grade level loan limits apply. Maximum aggregate for independent students of 57,570.00

DOE Estimated Time to Completion Calculation (from DOE

The program length for a program is determined by the institution based on what is required of a student to be full-time in their program. The expected time to credential is calculated using this published program length (§ 685.102(b))."

Examples: The above guidance applies in the following and similar examples:

- Part-time programs published with part-time program lengths (wherein a student cannot enroll full time); or
- Programs designed with a full-time and a part-time pathway within the same program, and the student enrolls in the part-time pathway (in which case the school would use the full-time program length).

New Borrower: A borrower of federal loans after July 1, 2026 who is not continuing in the same degree program as they were enrolled in 2025-26 at the same school, and who has not borrowed prior federal loans for that program.

- If you are a returning student who did not borrow federal loans for your JD program at Delaware Law School in previous years, you are a new borrower.
- If you transferred to Delaware Law School for 26-27, you are a new borrower.
- If you are enrolled for more than three years towards your JD Program (generally 4L's students) you are a new borrower.
- If you are a new 1L student, you are a new borrower.

New Borrowers (defined above as of 7/1/2026):

- Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan - $50,000 annually if enrolled for a professional degree, including the JD Program.
- New borrowers have no eligibility for GradPLUS
- May apply to borrow a private or state sponsored loan for an amount up to the cost of attendance minus other aid including the $50,000 Federal Direct Loan Unsubsidized Loan. Credit Check is required for private/state sponsored loan approval.

Student Aggregate Direct Loan Limit-New Borrowers

- Professional Student (including JD) =200,000, will include prior borrowing at graduate level
    - **New borrowers who have prior graduate or professional Federal Direct Loan debt may hit that cap before or during their JD Program.**

- Graduate Student = $100,000. (will include prior graduate loan borrowing)
- Undergraduate Student = 57,500

New Borrowers - Lifetime Maximum Aggregate Loan Limit of $257,500 which includes all federal loans borrowed (undergraduate, graduate/professional and GradPLUS). Prior federal loans count towards these limits.

Loan Reduction for less than full time enrollment:
All students registered for less than full time enrollment will be subject to a reduction in federal loan eligibility.

- Full-time is 12 credits per semester in the JD Regular Division Program
- Full-time is 8-11 credits in the Extended Division JD Program.